

**CASS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING  
November 3, 2014**

**MINUTES**

With quorum present, Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

**Present:** Vern Bennett (joined meeting at 2:48 pm), Gail Bollinger, Ken Pawluk, Chad Peterson, Mary Scherling, Darrel Vanyo

**Absent:** Brian Hagen

**Presenters:** Chip Ammerman, Director; Laetitia Mizero, Lutheran Social Services

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Scherling made a motion to approve the October 6, 2014 Board minutes. Mr. Vanyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**II. Legislative Discussion**

The Board members received three handouts of information concerning the legislative discussion topic. This included information obtained from a Grand Forks Herald article published in 2009 called, "Agencies, governments to study who can best deliver social services", a Call to Action for Social Service Funding and Preservation of Local Services, and a Discussion Paper on the Transfer of County Social Service Administration.

Mr. Ammerman shared the county director's association is recommending full funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) and not statetizing social services, but to provide funds for local service. Regionalizing services will affect smaller counties with a loss of employees and will cause a limit of resources for clients who would need to travel to larger communities to receive services. County-funded programs such as crisis case management, intake, and early intervention strategies would be limited to local area needs.

The state has received notification that Cass County will discontinue providing funding for APS after June 30, 2015 if funding is not received by the state. Maggie Anderson, DHS, will be presenting the governor's budget at the next county director's meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> and staff are hopeful funding for APS will be included.

In addition to the two areas already discussed, there has been concern raised about the Economic Assistance computer systems, which have caused inefficiencies in processing applications, with staff needing to access and use five to six different computer systems.

**V. Review of 2014 Workplan**


Most items included in the 2014 Workplan are complete. The Economic Assistance paperless project continues to be revised and streamlined for efficiencies. There may be some carryover of the workplan areas in 2015.

**VI. Operating Report**

There were no additions, changes or discussion on the report provided.

**VII. Adjournment**

Mr. Pawluk made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:59 pm. Mr. Bennett seconded it. Motion carried.



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Chad Peterson, Chair  
Cass County Social Services Board



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Melissa Kain Varno, Recorder